No. 15,097.

WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 1901-TWELVE PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

SUPPORTING STRIKE

American Federation of Labor Gives Its Pledge.

FUND MAY REACH \$100,000 WEEKLY

Small When Compared to Enorstriking. mous Cost of Trouble.

STARTLING STATISTICS

PITTSBURG, July 17 .- National Organizer Thomas H. Flynn of the American Federation of Labor came to Pittsburg with great interest. from Washington this morning, and after a consultation with the officials of the Amalgamated Association, ple ged the support of the Federation in the strike. In an interview Mr. Flynn said the Federation had a membership of 2,000,000 and they could make an assessment when any of the organizations affiliated with them were in need of assistance. He said he had just of the United States Steel Corporation project, and the instruction is seen to the control of the United States Steel Corporation project, and the instruction is seen to the control of the United States Steel Corporation project, and the instruction is seen to the control of the United States Steel Corporation project, and the instruction is seen to the control of the United States Steel Corporation project. settled a strike of 4,000 tube workers and fron workers at Reading and these men announced that they would contribute \$1 a week each. All members could not afford be missed by the members.

Tremendous Cost of Trouble.

PITTSBURG, Pa., July 17.-According to figures compiled by the Pittsburg Dispatch the steel strike is daily costing the three companies involved \$210,000 and the workmen \$156,000. It is estimated that in the daily loss of nearly 23,000 boxes of tin plate a day the American Tin Plate Company is daily losing over \$90,000, while the loss to the canning companies, unable to secure their material, is enormous in addition. Practically no stocks have been carried, and the consumption has kept pace with the production for some little time past. About 700 tons of the 1,000 tons daily production of the American Sheet Steel a loss each day to the combine of at least

Losses in Wages.

The loss to the gas stove manufacturers | tion. is also great, as the mills are closed which make a specialty of stove iron. This is the heavy season for making stoves. About 2,000 or 2,500 tons of steel hoops, bands and cotton ties are being lost daily by the American Steel Hoop Company by reason of the strike, and this represents a daily loss in money of \$70,000. It is estimated that the men are losing in wages \$150,000. The tin workers will lose \$6,000 daily in ad-

Fund of the Association.

In addition to all of these losses, the many and varied industries crippled now part of the employes of the Black Diamond and in prospect represent losses to the men and upper Carnegie mills, Manager Brown now. The Amalgamated men are said to have a fund of over \$200,000 with which to keep the strike going, and the many Amalgamated men employed in the various mills still operating will go a great way toward keeping the sinews of war in good condi-

Manager Smith's Threat.

The threat of District Manager Persifer F. Smith of the American Sheet Steel Company to start the Wellsville rolling mill and operate it as it has been in the past-by non-union men-was the only new feature in the steel strike situation this morning. and the eyes of all interested were turned to that plant.

Up to 10 o'clock, however, nothing had been heard from Wellsville by those in authority at the headquarters of the Amalgamated Association in this city. They resed to believe that the Wellsville mill had started up, and said they had every reason to believe the plant was shut dov and would remain so in spite of the efforts of Mr. Smith.

Situation at Wellsville. A dispatch to the Associated Press from

Wellsville at 10:30 o'clock said: "The strike situation here remains as it has been ever since the men were called out of the mill. P. F. Smith, manager for the American Sheet Steel Company for the Pittsburg district, was here Tuesday, and in an address to the mill men, declared that the mill would be run as a non-union mill. He gave orders for the mill to start this morning. In response to Smith's order about thirty went out to work, two of whom were members of the Amalgamated Association. The manager of the mill concluded that thirty men was not sufficient to man the crews, and the attempt for the present has been abandoned. It is said that non-union men from other places will be brought here today, in which case seri-

Exciting Developments Expected.

Now that Mr. Smith has declared himself, it is thought that the managers of the other non-union plants will make an effort to resume also within a few days and developments of an exciting nature can be expected. It is known that a gang of men are at work at the Dewees Wood plant of the American Sheet Steel Company at Mc-Keesport, clearing up and making repairs, and a well-defined rumor was prevalent on the south side of this city today that an effort was to be made by the mill officers in the Painter plant to break the strike by bringing workers here from out of the city. In confirmation of this, for the first time since the strike began watchmen arrived with clubs and patrolled all sides of the mill this morning. None of the strikers was to be seen about the property and everything was quiet. The mill officers clined to discuss this matter, and said when they were ready to move they would do s without any noise. For the present noth-ing was being done beyond cleaning up the mills and making repairs that had been neglected owing to the rush of business. The Wood plant is closely guarded also and the strikers look for the manufacturers to

attempt resumption next week

Another Official Statement. In direct opposition to Manager Smith's declaration and the evident preparations at the Painter's and Wood's works, an official of another of the companies interested, who did not want his name used, asserted that the companies had no intention of starting their plants. The same official said something might be known in ninety days, but he would not say whether that was the time the officials expected the strike to last. What the manufacturers generally think of the strike cannot be earned. All information at the offices of the companies or at the mills is denied. The explanation given is that there is nothing to give out or that the order has gone forth forbidding any one to talk.

Shaffer Hopes for Early Settlement. President Shaffer is still hopeful of an arly settlement of the strike. The information he received from the strike centers today was quite meager. This he in-

terpreted to mean that the strike was going on well. Nothing further has been done in refer ence to the issuance of a strike call to the Amalgamated men in the mills of the United States Steel Corporation outside the three

would issue the order only when it becomes ecessary.
It is evidently the purpose of the asso

clation to confine its fight for the present to the three companies now involved.

Fruitless Efforts to Organize. Dispatches from Scottdale report the efforts of strike organizers at the Old Meadow works up to this time as fruitless. A number of employes declared that they would not go out on a strike under any circumstances.

At Saltsburg everything is moving harmoniously, and a strike is not apprehended. The plant is running in full with three mills, the men are apparently a unit against

The executive committee of the Amalgamated Association sent a circular this norning to the sheet workers of Vandergrift, Leechburg and Apollo, making a strong appeal to them to organize themselves into a branch of the association. So far the men at these places are still at work, and what the effect of this circular will have cannot be stated as yet. But as these mills are some of the largest in the country, the outcome will be watched

Independent Mills Sign Scale.

Two independent concerns, the Licking Rolling Mill Company of Covington, Ky., and the American Car and Foundry Company of Detroit, Mich., sent the signed struction Mr. Rockhill is not committed to scales to Amalgamated headquarters this the support of the measure. On the conmorning. The strikers' officials say the trary, the United States government, in its closed down this morning. The shutdown affects about one hundred men.

Only one furnace was in operation at Lindsay & McCutcheon's today. An announcement was made that if the matter this, but an assessment of 5 cents each was not adjusted before evening all the would yield \$100,000 weekly and would not strikers at the Lindsay & McCutcheon plant would go to the Monongahela Iron and Steel Company plants at Six Mile Ferry, where there is work for 600 additional men. The Six Mile Ferry plant is an independent one and is union.

At the Monongahela plant of the Amer

ican Tin Plate Company the finishers were notified that the company would be compelled to close down the department in two or three days on account of a lack of sheared material. It was expected that the finishers would

be kept at work several weeks yet. Every thing is quiet about the works. Unfounded Rumor. A rumor that gained considerable circula-

tion today to the effect that the strike had been, or would be settled, within fortyeight hours, was promptly denied by President Shaffer. There could be no settlement, Company is being lost, and this represents | he said, without a conference, and the only move made in that direction was the suggestion of arbitration made by Secretary Bishop of the Ohio state board of arbitra-

> Deputy Sheriffs Guard Plant. The last furnace in Lindsay and Mc-Cutcheon's mill was closed down at noon. As soon as all the men had left the mill seven deputy sheriffs were stationed about

> The open hearth and billet mills of the Clark plant were running today. Manager Brown announced that several men who left the plant with the strikers on Monday have returned and are now working in the finishing department. Referring to the report of a sympathetic movement on the said the men were satisfied and will no strike.

Strikers Discharged. STEUBENVILLE, Ohio, July 17 .- The steel hoop employes at Mingo Junction, who organized last night, went out at midnight, and the plant is idle today and no attempt is being made to start. The company has posted notices calling in the men's checks, which means their dis-

charge. Chicago Iron Molders.

CHICAGO, July 17 .- An official of the Iron Molders' Union, 900 members of which are on strike here, said today that the men are holding conferences with their employers and that they will be back at work in a few days. As this is the dull season, only the best workmen are required, but these will, it is said, receive the advance in wages to \$3.

Aiding the Strikers.

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohlo, July 17 .- The Amalgamated workers in the Youngstown mills of the Republic Iron and Steel Company have met and decided upon a policy for collecting strike benefit funds from their members. They have notified President Shaffer that if the plan is acceptable to him they will each donate one day's pay every two 'weeks to the strikers' About 800 members agreed to this, which will net about \$3,000 per month. The work-ers are also rapidly securing jobs in their mills for the striking steel hoop men.

Additional Aid Promised. ELWOOD, Ind., July 17.-It was an nounced here today that the Tin Plate Workers' Protective Association will stand by the Amalgamated Association and refuse to work plates in any "steel trust" mill made or sheared by non-union men This announcement was made by President George Powell of the Tin Plate Work-

ers' Protective Association, who said: "We made an agreement with the American Tin Plate Company, which begins today and runs to July 15, 1902. This agree ment we are legally bound to respect. The Amalgamated is fighting for the vital principle of unionism, and this principle is worth fighting for. While we shall strive to live up to our agreement, we shall posttively refuse to allow our men to plates made or sheared by non-union men, if we know it."

DEFENDED THEMSELVES.

Non-Union Men Attacked by Strikers Use Their Pistols.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 17.-Ill-feeling between strikers and non-union men resulted in a shooting affray last night at the corner of 1st and Harris streets. F. A. Pagendarn and Fred M. Cliff, employes of the Dundon iron works, discharged their revolvers into a crowd of strikers, one of the bullets lodging in the fleshy part of William Dunn's leg. The shooting was provoked by an assault committed by a number of strikers on Pagendarn and Cliff, who were on their way home from work, and were followed by strikers, who jeered at them and pelted them with stones. Threatening cries were made, when Cliff, who is an ex-soldier, drew his revolver and called on Pagendarn to do the same. They then called on the strikers to disperse The reply was a shower of stones. The two workingmen then fired their revolvers into the air. As this did not stop the throwing of stones, they shot into the crowd. The only man hit was William Dunn, whose wound is not dangerous.

TREASURER HOLLANDER HERE.

Has Nothing to Say Regarding His Plans for the Future. Mr. Jacob Hollander, treasurer of the Island of Porto Rico, was at the State Department today. He deposited there the seal of the government of Porto Rico, which was adopted by the insular government in pursuance of the law requiring it to select a seal. Mr. Hollander also paid his respects to the Secretary of State. He did not indicate, so far as can be learned, anything about his future plans. He returned to Baltimore this afternoon.

Mr. Cridler Goes to the Seashore. Third Assistant Secretary of State Cridler, who has been ill for several weeks, was sufficiently recovered today to be re-moved to Seabright, N. J. He was accomcompanies against which the fight is now moved to Seabright, N. directed. President T. J. Shaffer said he panied by Mrs. Cridler.

CHINESE INDEMNITY STEAM YACHT HITS STEAMER DIFFER ON SILVER

Proposed Increase of Customs

INSTRUCTION SENT TO MR. ROCKHILL

May Agree to Discussion of the Measure.

JAPAN WITHDRAWS REQUEST

Mr. Rockhill, our special commissioner at Pekin, has been instructed to give the assent of the United States to the discussion of the proposition to increase the Chinese customs dues, in order to provide means for the payment of the international indemnity. It is made clear that by this indeference to the universal wish for a speedy conclusion of the negotiations at Pekin. Proposed Increase Opposed.

It is learned that the hitch in these negotiations, the most baffling that has yet occurred, is due entirely to the issue raised as to the increase of customs. The United States government feels that this issue has completely justified its original judgment that a great error was being made by the ministers in forcing China to pay the heavy indemnity demanded. It was strongly contended that the indemnity was far beyond the ability of the Chinese government to pay under ordinary conditions. The United States was overruled, and now the very powers that took issue with us have come around to the belief that the Chinese ordinary revenues are not sufficient; hence the proposition to double the customs duties. Great Britain maintains that as she and the United States send into China the greater part of the articles of commerce which would be thus doubly taxed, the proposition amounts to making these two countries assume the burden of the Chinese indemnity. However, the British govern-ment has consented to discuss the matter; hence this instruction to Mr. Rockhill to assume a similar attitude.

Japan's Request Withdrawn. In a spirit which has aroused the keenest admiration of the Department of State, the Japanese government has met the difficulty growing out of the preference of her request for an increase of her indemnity by withdrawing that request. The result is a substantial loss to Japan. She asked originally for \$23,000,000. That figure was more moderate than that of any of the powers which played any prominent part in the Chinese campaign, and represented the barest expense of the undertaking. It was fixed upon the idea that payment was to be made in cash by China. Some of the other powers did not make this mistake, but placed their indemnity claims far enough above their actual outlays to more han guarantee them against any loss the method of payment. Confronted with the bond payment, the Japanese govern-ment asked that her allotment be increased to \$27,000,000 in bonds to make good the loss she would suffer through the sale of the bonds. Special Commissioner Rockhill reported that making due allowance for all proper claims presented, the total indemnity of 450,000,000 yen, which was to be taken from China, would leave a surplus

sufficient to meet the Japanese request. Other Claims Increased. But as soon as some of the other nations found that the allotment as originally fixed would be disturbed they came in with increased demands, and thus it is Japan, finding that insistence upon her demand would block the negotiations at this stage. she has withdrawn her request for the present at least. It is safe to assume that the United States government will do what she can to secure compensation for Japan in some other way in the future.

GEN. WOOD'S OUTING.

Will Be Provided With a Steam Yacht by the Government. It is expected that General Wood will leave Havana for New York in a few days. The latest reports indicate a steady improvement in his health, and it is believed that a change of climate will complete his recovery. The Secretary of War has given directions for the repair of the steamer Kanawha, which has been used by General Wood for several months past as a headquarters and dispatch boat. She was formerly in the naval service and was subsequently turned over to the War Department for use in connection with the administration of the Cuban customs service She is a steam yacht and is a first-class vessel in every respect. She has been maintained out of the revenues of the insular government, and the repairs will be defrayed out of the same fund. The re-pairs will be made at New York. The vessel will await General Wood's arrival at that port and be placed at his disposal to take him wherever he chooses to go. It understood that the plans for General Wood's recuperation contemplate short cruises along the New England coast and a season of rest and recreation at one of the northern summer resorts, to be selected by himself.

In case General Wood's convalescence in this country is prolonged over a few weeks it is the intention of the War Department to designate some able and discreet officer of the army to temporarily perform his important duties as military governor of

FOR THE NAVAL OBSERVATORY.

Two More Tracts of Land Bought by Secretary Long. Secretary Long today acquired two additional tracts of land within the proposed circle around the naval observatory. One of these tracts comprises .389 of an acre, owned by Theodore Barnes. The price paid for this land was \$4,050.07. The other tract of land secured was owned by John A. Barker. It comprised .425 of an acre and was acquired at the appraised value of \$2,221.56.

SENT BACK TO UNALASKA. Commander Delano Put in Command

of the Concord. The Navy Department has detached Commander F. H. Delano from the command of the training ship Topeka and ordered him to command the gunboat Concord and take her back to Unalaska, whence she unexpectedly arrived in at Seattle. Commander Harry Knox has been detached from command of the Concord and authorized to receive hospital treatment. The department is now awaiting a mail report of the circumstances which brought the Concord summarily back from her post.

Col. Mosby's Appointment. Col. John S. Mosby, the confederate leader during the civil war, has been appointed

LATTER'S BOW CUT OFF IN A MID-

NIGHT COLLISION.

Thrilling Experience of Passengers-Fortunately There Were No Fatalities.

NEW LONDON, Conn., July 17 .- With forty feet of her bow cut clean off in a collision with the steam yacht Wild Duck at midnight, the steamer Tremont of the Joy line, which left Boston yesterday for New York with 300 passengers, was towed into New London and beached today. All her passengers had been transferred to other steamers in the sound and continued

their trip to New York. Captain Wilcox of the Tremont says the night was perfectly clear and the steamer was proceeding on her usual course when, about twelve miles west of Cornfield Light. a schooner-rigged steam yacht was made out on the bow. The officers of the Tremont supposed that the yacht would pass astern of their vessel, as her course seemed to be on a line diagonal to that of the Tre-

No danger was thought of until the yacht had approached to within a quarter of a mile, when she was hailed from the Tremont and no answer was received. When too late, the Tremont attempted to change her course to avoid the impending colli-sion. The sharp prow of the yacht struck her about thirty feet back of the port bow and sheered disposally accounts. bow and sheered diagonally across, coming out of the starboard side.

Passengers Thrown From Bunks. The force of the impact was sufficient to throw passengers from their bunks and caused the greatest excitement among them for a time, but the officers of the Tremont maintained discipline and aid was quickly at hand. The steamer City of Worcester and the City of Lowell were ooth nearby and promptly went to the a sistance of the Tremont. As soon as the extent of the Tremont's injury was known the City of Lowell ran alongside and the transfer of passengers from the disabled boat was quickly effected. The City of Lowell was bound to New York and resumed her trip as soon as it was seen that the Tremont had all the assistance necessary. The crew of the Tremont remained on board their vessel and accepted an of-fer of the steamer New Hampshire for as-sistance to New London. In tow of that steamer the Tremont reached here today.

Capt. Wilcox's Claim. Immediately after the accident the steam yacht backed away from the Tremont and left immediately, coming into New London harbor early today. From shore it appeared that she had sustained considerable injury to her stem. Capt. Wilcox insists that if proper lookout had been kept on the yacht the collision would not have occurred. The cargo of the Tremont will be removed during the day.

The accident to the Tremont is the second misfortune that has come to the Joy line fleet within three weeks, the steamer Old Dominion of that line being now on the rocks off Rye Beach, N. Y., where she

struck on a foggy night. Senator Aldrich Aboard Yacht. The schooner-rigged steam yacht Wild Duck is an iron vessel, built by the late John Forbes of Boston, and now owned by Gen. Francis V. Greene of New York. Since July the yacht has been chartered to United States Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island, who, with his wife and daughter, was on board last night, making a trip from New York to Narragansett bay. Mr. Aldrich said he and his family were asleep in the cabin when the collision occurred and were awakened by the crash and the were thrown from their bunks. The plates of the yacht's stem are indented and bent to one side badly and the

bowsprit was carried away. WEATHER WAXES WARMER

ANOTHER HOT WAVE SPREADING DISCOMFORT OVER COUNTRY.

KANSAS CITY, July 17 .- A light thunder storm prevailed today at Concordia, Kan., 100 miles west of Kansas City. A few sprinkles fell last night in southwest Missouri and northern Arkansas. At Dawson, Indian territory, in the Cherokee nation, seventy-five miles south of the Kansas line, one-half inch of rain fell last night, breaking a drought of thirty-eight days. It is doubtful whether the rain came in time to do the corn much good.

In Kansas City at 10 a.m. the temperature was 94, with indications of light local thunderstorms.

Iowa Corn Still Has a Chance. DES MOINES, Iowa, July 17.-Promised rain failed to make its appearance in Iowa last night. A slight trace is reported at Estherville, in the northern part of the state. This is the fourteenth day of the drought. Crops are suffering, but it is still maintained by experts that if rain shall come within two days the corn crop will

At 9 a.m. the temperature here was 83.

Some Solace in Nebraska. OMAHA, Neb., July 17.-Indications in this city are for another scorching day, with high humidity. At 7 a.m. the temperature was 71. Two prostrations are reported.

Showers were reported during the night in the South Platte district, breaking the protracted drought in that section and lowering the mercury 15 to 20 degrees. Eight other counties in central Nebraska also reported a fairly good rainfall, the heaviest being in Adams, Franklin, Kearney and Harlan counties, where an inch of rain

Scorching in St. Louis. ST. LOUIS, July 17.—Today started in with every indication of being a scorcher.

At 8 a.m. the government thermometer There have been several prostrations during the past twenty-four hours, and one death, that of Prof. Bernhard J. Neu-mann, who for forty-two years acted as organist of St. Mary's German Catholic

Conditions Elsewhere COLUMBIA, Mo., July 27.—Rain has been falling in Columbia and throughout Boone county since 8 p.m. yesterday. At the government experiment station here a hopeful view is now taken of the crop sit-

TOPEKA, Kan., July 17.—Last night was the hottest of the season, with a minimum temperature of 85 degrees. The temperature at noon was 98. No rain fell in the city, although heavy showers were reported twelve miles west.

Lack of Funds Ends Strike. MILWAUKEE, July 17.-Unable to hold out any longer, on account of the scarcity of funds, fifty machinists voluntarily went back to work at the works of the Allisa special agent of the general land office.

He claims his present residence in California. He has been assigned to duty in Nebraska.

Chalmers Company yesterday, thus virtually putting an end to the strike in Milwaukee. It is expected today will see a general return to work of the men in every shop in the city.

Judge Boyd Talks on the Divisions Among Democrats.

REPUBLICANS MAY MAKE GAINS

Situation in the South Favorable to Them.

MR. TOWNE'S VIEWS

Judge Boyd of North Carolina has been in Washington for several days, and in discussing politics with his friends says that while he is not actively engaged in politics he cannot be oblivious of the situation in his state, which he pronounces to be favorable to the republicans.

"The democratic party is badly split up," he said, "the Bryanites and the anti-silver men flying at each other's throats already. I don't know how they will be by the time the next election comes off if they keep up their warfare at the present rate. "The same thing seems to be going on all over the south, however, so far as I can observe, and it seems to me that the democratic party is seriously divided in many of the states of that section. All indica-

tions point to a widening of the breach rather than its healing. "In North Carolina I would not be surprised to see the election of four or five republican representatives in Congress at the next congressional elections. The reapportionment of the state has made several close districts, and unless a great change comes over the prospects as they now ap-pear the democrats will stand a good chance to lose some of them."

Divisions Among Democrats. From every section come reports of dirisions among the democrats over the silver question, and to political observers it seems evident that the fight between the Bryanites and the reactionists is proceeding vigorously.

Following closely upon Mr. Bryan's pronunciamento, based on the action of the Ohio convention, that the silver cause must be upheld constantly, comes a statement from Charles A. Towne of Minnesota to the contrary, which is very significant of the threatened rift in the silver organization. Mr. Towne has been recognized as a champion of silver and original Bryan man up to this time.

His friends in Washington have known for some time that he favored going slowy with the silver issue in the next campaign and not pressing it in the face of other "paramount issues." When in Wash-ington several days ago he expressed no dissatisfaction with the omission of the silver plank from the platform of the Ohio convention, although his leader did.

Mr. Towne's Utterances. In New York yesterday Mr. Towne, in an interview with a Herald reporter, expressed some very vigorous sentiments

upon the subject, in part as follows: "Free silver as an issue is absolutely dead in the west. I do not believe it will be mentioned in the democratic platform democrats in the west is that they want to of a platform they have so long as it brings victory.
"I believe that the platform adopted by

the next democratic national convention will be reactionary. I expect to see David B. Hill nominated for President, and I would not be at all surprised if Mr. Bryan should lead a faction composed of the elements which still uphold the principles of the Chicago and the Kansas City platforms. There is a strong feeling in the west in favor of the nomination of Mr. Hill or some other man from the east. The democrats there are tired of defeat, and the drift is toward the adoption of a platform which will ignore the issues of the last two presidential campaigns.
"We were misunderstood in our attitude

toward free silver in 1896 and 1900. What so that prices might be kept up. We were of the silver mines at higher prices for silver. There has been an enormous increase in the supply of gold, and there is more in the country today than there have been had the stock of gold remained stationary and had the mints been opened to free silver coinage.
"While the supply of gold continues to increase as it has been increasing lately there can be no serious or successful de-

"What do you think of Mr. Bryan's con-demnation of the platform adopted by the Ohio democrats?" was asked. "I am glad that he has spoken as he did. said Mr. Towne. "It was what I expected. He is loyal to his principles and he is not an easy man to silence, but I do not believe that he can ever again be the presidential candidate of a united party.'

CLAIMS OVER A MILLION.

Application of the Central Teresa Sugar Company Filed. The Central Teresa Sugar Company of Jersey City and Havana has filed a claim with the Spanish treaty claims commission

for \$1,256,000 for damages inflicted upon

the company's sugar estate in Cuba by the insurgents. It is alleged that the protection of the Spanish troops was withdrawn because the company was an American institution, and the Spanish commander held that Americans were enemies of his country, and there-

by Spanish soldiers. The attention of the War Department has been called to the action of an officer of D. Schenck of the 2d Artillery, which is said to embarrass the attorneys for the government engaged in defending the claims. Some time ago General Wood was asked to furnish the government officials certain information about pending claims. Major Schenck in doing this, it is said, sen out circulars under the heading of the office of Spanish treaty claims in which he advised claimants to appear before him with apers and depositions, and otherwise in-

forming prospective witheses of proceedings likely to follow.

The action was deemed indiscreet by the legal officers appearing before the commission, and there has been correspondence with the War Department, which will probably result in General Wood being called upon for an explanation of Major Schenck's

WANTS TO RETAIN HIS SERVICES. Navy Department Willing to Let Capt

Asserson Have a Rest.

Capt. Peter C. Asserson, civil engineer,

who has been on duty at the New York

yard for some months past under the act of last year which admits of the assignment of retired officers to active duty, has asked to be detached from his present service. Captain Asserson retired by age limit on the 5th of January last, and shortly afterward began active duty in the depart ment of yards and docks at the New York navy yard. Now, however, he finds him self in need of a rest, and has accordingly requested his detachment from active duty. The Navy Department has submitted to

serve the same purpose—that of recuperating his health—as would be attained by his final relinquishment of his present duties. Captain Asserson has rendered valuable service at the New York yard, and the department is anxious to further avail itself of them, if that can be done without detriment to the officer's health.

PAYMENT ALLOWED. Paymaster's Action in the Philippines

Ratified by Controller. Mr. Mitchell, the acting controller of the treasury, has overruled the auditor for the Navy Department in a decision made by the latter that George P. Dyer, passed assistant paymaster of the navy, is not entitled to an allowance of \$4.74 for that sum paid to a Filipino whose house had been occupied by a landing force from the Princeton. Mr. Dyer says in a statement that the force was landed from the Princeton to relieve the army garrison at Vigan. The force took charge of the house of a friendly native and used it as a barracks. The native was told that he would be paid for whatever damages were done. The place was vacated in three days, and Paymaster Dyer gave the native ten Mexican dollars, worth \$4.74 in American gold. Mr. Dyer then turned in the account as damages or rent, and the auditor disallowed the payment. The controller says the ac-

PASSENGERS ON THE GRANT. Gen. Ludington Among Those Who

count was paid in good faith and there is

no reason to dispute its payment.

Sailed for Manila. Acting Adjt. Gen. Ward has received a telegram from Gen. Young at San Francisco saying that the transport Grant sailed yesterday for Manila, via Honolulu, with the following military passengers: Quartermaster General Ludington, Cols. McCauley, quartermaster; Roberts, 2d Infantry; Majs. Sawyer, quartermaster; Davis, Artillery Corps; Grandy, Adair, Peed and Wilson, surgeons; Capts. Ray, paymaster; Zalinsky and Baxter, quartermasters; Baldwin, 26th Infantry; Conrad, 3d Cavalry; Reichman, 17th Infantry; Eber, Allen, Andrews and Williams, assistant surgeons; Lieuts. Haskel, 9th Cavalry; Fiscus, 19th Infantry; Sterling, 3d Cavalry; Gregory, Kent and Enos, 1st Cavalry, and Hartsock, assistant surgeon; six Hospital Corps men, four army nurses, six civilian employes, twenty-three enlisted men of the 66th and

HARCOURT ROUSES CHAMBERLAIN. Latter Declares War Will Soon End

lery, and four casuals.

and Colonies Will Pay Debt. LONDON, July 17 .- In the course of a debate on the finance bill in the house of commons this afternoon Sir William Vernon Harcourt, liberal, criticised the government's financial policy, and said those persons believing the statement that the general expenditure would fall after the termination of the war were living in a fool's

Sir William's speech, which was throughout undilutedly pessimistic, drew angry interruptions from Joseph Chamberlain, the colonial secretary. The latter, in the and Brisban in north Scranton, the Bliss course of his reply to Sir William, took a sanguine view of the situation in South Africa. He said nobody doubted the would soon be over, and when the Boers recognized they had been thoroughly beaten and had returned to peaceful occupa-tions interest on the Transvaal debt and sinking fund would be easily payable out of the surplus revenue derived from the new colonies The finance bill passed its third reading

by a vote of 291 to 121. TRAIN STRUCK A ROCK.

Engine and Two Cars Derailed in West Virginia Special Dispatch to The Evening Star. CUMBERLAND, Md., July 17.-Baltimore and Ohio passenger train No. 8 struck a rock just beyond Rowlesburg, W. Va., twenty miles west of Oakland, this morning, derailing the engine and two cars. The engine and four cars were considerably damaged. Passengers were considerably shaken, but no one was hurt. A delay of

four hours was caused by the accident. FINLANDERS EXCITED.

Recent Military Ukase of the Czar Does Not Please Them. HELSINGFORS, Finland, July 17.-The appeal of the Finlanders against the new military law abolishing the distinctive Finnish military force has been only partially successful. The czar has issued a ukase to the effect that the Finnish guards and a battalion of a dragoon regiment shall be maintained in Finland, while eight battalions of Finnish sharpshooters are to be disbanded when the new law becomes ef-

Both the Finnish regiments to be retained are liable to service outside of Finland, in times of peace as well as in war times. The ukase of the czar has caused great excitement here.

BREAKS HER OWN RECORD.

Deutschland Makes Another Swift Trip Across Atlantic. PLYMOUTH, July 17.-The Hamburg-American line steamer Deutschland, which left New York July 11, arrived here today, having made the passage in five days, eleven hours and five minutes, at an aver-

age speed of 23.51 knots an hour, over a distance of 3,082 knots. The vessel's highest day's run was 557 knots. This establishes a new eastward speed record. The highest previous eastward speed record was made by this steamer June 19 of this fore their property should not be protected year, when she covered 23.38 knots in one our. The highest day's run of 557 knots is also an eastward record for a day's run. best previous day's record, going east, 552 knots, was made by the Deutschland in

FLED TO THE STATES.

Plight of Crew of a Train That Killed a Mexican Peon. CHICAGO, July 17 .- A special to the Trib-

une from El Paso, Texas, says: "An American train crew on the Mexican Central railroad has just reached this city. having fied from the republic to the north in consequence of accidentally running over and killing a Mexican and throwing his body in the fire box of the locomotive in hopes of concealing his death.

The accident happened below Torren, Mexico. A freight in an isolated spot ran Mexico. A freight in an isolated spot ran sylvania Coal Company collieries in this over a peon, killing the man instantly. In district, as well as in the Wilkesbarre Mexico the death of a subject by a train and Nanticoke regions unless the company is as much a crime as murder. Knowing this, the crew, to conceal the accident. threw the body in the fire box. A few days later the relatives of the dead man began to make inquiry as to his whereabouts Some one had seen him at a certain point and one Mexican from a distance saw the train stop. The members of the crew were questioned, and fearing the truth would come out, they resigned their positions and fied to the United States.

Boy Drowned While Bathing. Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

CUMBERLAND, Md., July 17.-Raymond the fifteen-year-old son of Gerard J. Ever stine, a traveling salesman of Cumberland. was drowned this morning in the Potomac The Navy Department has submitted to his consideration a proposition by which he may obtain leave at once, and ultimately return to duty, believing that this would return to duty, believing that this would return to duty.

WILL NOT ACCEDE

THE STAR BY MAIL.

Persons leaving the city for any

period can have The Star mailed to

them to any address in the United States or Canada, by ordering it at

this office, in person or by letter. Terms: 18 cents per week; 25 cents for two weeks, or 50 cents per month. Invariably in advance. The address may be changed as frequently as desired. Always give the last address, as well as the new one.

Coal Operators Decline to Grant Firemen's Demands.

STATEMENT ISSUED TO SUCH EFFECT

Mining Operations Generally Suspended in Affected Region.

MINES MAY BE FLOODED

PITTSTON, Pa., July 17.-The mines in this section which are idle owing to the stationary firemen's strike are said to be filling with water, despite the efforts of officials, who are themselves in the engine rooms endeavoring to keep the pumps working. The operators are discharging the stationary engineers who refuse to take the strikers' places. The firemen have posted pickets about the mines to prevent a threatened importation of non-union men from Philadelphia.

The coal operators today issued the following statement: "We gave our answer to the men in re-gard to their demands some time ago, which was that we could not grant the demands they made, nor will we retract from that stand now. All the big companies are agreed to this, and all have decided to

quietly await developments.
"The firemen received an increase of 10 per cent last October, along with the other men, and their demands at this time can-not and will not be granted."

In the Lackawanna Valley, SCRANTON, Pa., July 17.-There was an almost complete cessation of mining operations today in the Lackawanna valley because of the strike of stationary firemen. Less than a half dozen mines managed by individual owners and the group of Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad mines in the west Scranton district were sixteen of the 67th companies, Coast Artilthe only ones in satisfactory shape for running when the whistles blew this morning. The small operators had granted the eighthour demand and the firemen at the Lacka-wanna's mines refused to quit, being affiliated with the United Mine Workers of America, and not with the Stationary Firemen's Association. They are fortified in their position by the action of the executive board of District No. 1, United Mine Workers, which last night decided that all firemen, engineers, machinists and pump runners who are members of the organi-zation should remain at work until other-

wise ordered by the district officers on the authority of President Mitchell and the national executive board.

Fear Mines Will Flood. General Superintendent Loomis of the Lackawanna reports all the company's mines in operation excepting the Cayuga and Auchincloss at Nanticoke and the Woodward and Pettebone at Only six Delaware and Hudson collieries are in operation throughout the Lackawanna and Wyoming valley. Those idle involve 8.000 workmen, the greater portion of whom are in Scranton, and north as far as Carbondale and Forest City. The Eri Ratiroad Company's mines employing 12,000 men, located about Pittston, Avoca, Dun-Jermyn and Forest City are down tight today. A serious condition confronts this company at its Glenwood colliery, at Jermyn, where it had been fighting hard against a flood, which has submerged all the lower workings and reached nearly fifty feet up the shaft. Every Ontario and Western railroad mine, employing 7,000 men in the Lackawanna region, is idle. With the pumps idle the flooding of most of the mines is threatened involving a destruction of property that will be enormous. In the event of flo mine cannot again be restored to work-

ing condition for several months. Breaker Boys Get Violent.

The Delaware and Hudson Railroad Company undertook today to get outside workmen, bosses and coal inspectors to fire mine boilers where the firemen had struck. The men refused and were at once discharged. The same condition prevailed at the Erie Railroad Company's Mayfield breaker. At the Keystone mine of the Eric company the breaker boys refused to work and made an attack on the fire room where it was reported ten non-union men were at work. At the Lackawanna company's offices to day the statement was given out that there will be no attempt to replace any of its firemen who strike unless there is danger of the mines being flooded. The market conditions were such now, it was said, that a

forced suspension would not cause any wor riment. Strikers Are Encouraged WILKESBARRE, Pa., July 17 .- There is practically no change in the stationary firemen's strike situation in the Wyoming region today. All the mines that were idle yesterday are closed today, with the exception of two or three small collieries operated by individual companies, where

the demands of their firemen were conceded and work was resumed. The strikers went into secret session this morning and after they adjourned a state-ment was issued in which they say: "Reports received this morning from all over the coal regions are very encouraging, The firemen in the Lackawanna district have responded and there will be a com-

plete tie-up in that region. "In the Pittston district everything is tied up "The hoisting engineers are standing by the firemen loyally. For the first time probably in the history of the coal region a written contract has been entered into between a coal company and its employer The Kingston Coal Company and the Par-rish Coal Company this morning signed a contract to give their firemen an eight-hour We consider this a great victory. At the offices of the coal companies little information was given out. It was stated that the fans and pumps were being kept running, but that no attempt had been

made to hoist coal. Five Hundred Out at Shamokin. SHAMOKIN, Pa., July 17 .- Five hundred men and boys went on strike at Hickory Ridge colliery today because the Union Coal Company would not permit a committee of United Mine Workers to inspect cards of workmen on company lands. Labor leaders threaten to tie up all of the Pennpermits the inspection of cards at the vari-ous collieries. The Pennsylvania company controls the Union and Mineral companies, which employ 5,000 men and boys in this

region. SECRETARY ROOT'S TRIP.

Arrived at Kansas City and Went to Fort Leavenworth. KANSAS CITY, July 7 .- Secretary of War Root and his party arrived here today from Fort Riley, Kansas. The party, which stopped here only between trains was met by a committee of the Commercial Club. Today was spent at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. There the party were met by a troop of cavalry and escorted to the post, where a salute of fourteen guns was fired. After an inspection of the fort and a reception at the home of Post Commander Colonei Lee, the party will leave this even-ing for Fort Omaha.